

A Rule 132 Declaration is attached to this Request for Reconsideration as evidence that Messrs. Yasuhiro Uehara, Kanji Oka and Shigehiko Haseba are the inventors of the subject matter of claims 1-4, 6, 8-15, 17 and 19-22 of the present application, and the inventors of the subject matter disclosed in both the Uehara Patent and U.S. Publication No. 2003/0020586 ("the Uehara Patent Publication").

The Uehara Patent issued on December 23, 2003, after the effective filing date of this application. Thus, the Uehara Patent was not patented before the invention of the Applicants. Moreover, as shown in the Rule 132 Declaration, the Uehara Patent is not a patent granted on an application for patent "by another." Thus, the Uehara Patent is not prior art under §102(a) or §102(e).

The Rule 132 Declaration also shows that the Uehara Patent Publication does not qualify as a printed publication "by others," or as an application for patent published "by another." Thus, the Uehara Patent Publication is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) or §102(e).

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-22 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:RSE/eks

Attachments:

Rule 132 Declaration
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: June 10, 2005

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